

the Iranian side. Further, a meeting was held in Dubai in September, 2006. The price worked out by the consultant, which was based on certain parameters given by Iran, was not acceptable to India and Pakistan. The consultant has been given revised parameters to work out the gas pricing.

2) Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (TAP) Gas Pipeline:

India was invited by the Steering Committee of the countries participating in TAP Project to become an official member of the project. Decision of the Government of India to join TAP Gas Pipeline as an official member, was conveyed to ADB in June, 2006. ADB was requested to appropriately take up India's request for joining the project with the Government of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkmenistan.

3) Indo-Myanmar Gas Pipeline:

GAIL has submitted its bid in response to Invitation of Bid by Ministry of Energy, Government of Union of Myanmar for purchase of gas from Shwe & Phyu fields in A-1 block and Mya field in A-3 block in September 2006. Government of Myanmar has recently intimated to GAIL that they are reviewing their decision to sell this gas through the pipeline route. Myanmar is exploring other options of selling the gas.

(c) The gas supply during 2005-06 was around 76MMSCMD from domestic production and 18.55 MMSCMD from Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG)

Exploration of oil and gas in Rajasthan

†678. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored oil and gas reserves in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the names of the areas of State where oil and gas reserves have been explored;

(c) the areas of the State where oil and gas reserves are likely to be found;

(d) whether Government are still on the job of exploration in this regard; and

(e) if so, the total amount spent by Government during the last three years in the State for exploration of oil and gas wells alongwith the results thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (e) Exploration activities have been carried out in Rajasthan by ONGC, OIL and private/JV companies for a long time. These activities have led to establishment of oil and gas reserves in Barmer, Jalore, Jaisalmer and Bikaner districts of Rajasthan.

Exploration work in six blocks is being carried out in the districts of Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur, Ganga Nagar, Churu and Bikaner.

In the exploration blocks awarded under Production Sharing Contracts, no investment is made by the Government. Successful bidders make all the investment, which is cost recoverable, if any hydrocarbon discovery is put on commercial production. However, companies have, so far, made an investment of approx. Rs. 900 crores in exploration of oil and gas in Rajasthan.

Identification of new oil fields

679. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new oil fields which have so far been identified by Government and found viable for commercial production in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of oil fields where production has since been started and in how many cases Government freezed production programme; and

(c) what is total quantity of crude oil extracted from new wells, State-wise till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) During the last three years (2003-2006), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Oil India Limited and Private/Joint Venture companies have made 35 hydrocarbon discoveries, of which, 22 oil and gas discoveries were found to be viable for commercial production. Remaining discoveries are under assessment. The State-wise break-up of these discoveries is as under:—

Andhra Pradesh	1
Assam	13
Gujarat	4
Rajasthan	4
TOTAL:	22